THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (d) The three basin States of Krishna Valley, namely, Maharashtra, Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh have constructed/are constructing 141 major and medium projects. The information asked for is very voluminous and they are not centrally maintained.

[Translation]

Exploration of Crude Oil

280. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has started the work for exploration of curde oil in the country during 1997;

(b) if so, the names of places where the exploration work has been taken up;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred on exploration of oil;

(d) by when the result of this oil exploration is likely to be received; and

(e) by when India is likely to become sefl-sufficient in oil ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) During the year 1997 ONGC has carried out exploration (surveys and exploratory drilling) in the following new areas/structures/prospects :-

Surveys :

Area	Basin
Narayan Chara (Assam)	Cachar
Shahbajpur (Assam)	Cachar
Najot-Ramnagar (J&K)	Himalayan Foothills
Rajouri-Kalakot (J&K)	Vindhayan
Kumhari-Katni-Panna (MP)	Vindhayan
Gowadi-Kankari-Tamiya (MP)	Satpura
East of Miajler	Rajasthan
Dhanduka-Viramgam (Gujarat)	Cambay
East of Borsad-Anklav (Gujarat)	Cambay
East of Nadiad (Gujarat)	Cambay

Exploratory Drilling :

Structure/Prospect	Basin
Manginapudi	Krishna Godavari
Kandikuppa	Krishna Godavari
Periyapattinam	Cauvery
Nayveli	Cauvery
Nagangudi	Cauvery
Telavi	Cambay
Balasar	Cambay
MPS	Mumbai Offshore
B-23A	Mumbai Offshore
B-5A	Mumbai Offshore
EDC	Mumbai Offshore
D-5	Mumbai Offshore
BSE	Mumbai Offshore

ONGC has planned to carry out exploration (Surveys and exploratory drilling) in the following new areas/ structures/prospects during the remaining part of the year 1997 :-

Surveys

Area	Basin
Chanderpur-Baikantapur (Assam)	Cachar
Rajouri-Kalakot (J&K)	Himalayan Foothills
Kumhari-Katni-Panna (MP)	Vindhayan
South of Padra	Cambay

Exploratory Drilling :

Structure/Prospect	Basin
Ambajipeta	Krishna Godavari Onland
Gokarnapuram	Krishna Godavari Onland
Viravasaram	Krishna Godavari Onland
Donapadu	Krishna Godavari Onland
Pendurru	Krishna Godavari Onland
Maddapuram	Cauvery Onland
Kokkur	Cauvery Onland
Uthirangudi	Cauvery Onland
Kodiya Kkarai	Cauvery Onland
Siruvattur	Cauvery Onland
Ramanavalsai	Cauvery Onland
Kokuvur	Cauvery Onland
EDA	Mumbai Offshore

Structure/Prospects	Basin
B-201	Mumabi Offshore
KKDW-17	Kerala-Konkan Offshore
KKDWA	Kerala-Konkan Offshore
KK-B	Kerala-Konkan Offshore
Damoh	Vindhayan
Rajnagar	Assam-Arakan Fold Belt

(c) The expenditure on surveys and exploratory drilling by ONGC in 1996-97 was about Rs. 1460 crores. The estimated expenditure for 1997-98 (BE) is expected to increase to Rs. 1625 crores.

(d) The inflow of information from exploratory work is continuously analysed and further data will be collected wherever necessary to determine the potential of the oil/gas finds as and when made. During the year 1997 oil has been struck in Tulsapatnam structure in Cauvery basin and Gas has been struck in Periyappatinam structure in Cauvery basin, Magatapalli structure in Krishna Godavari Basin and Sadewala in Rajasthan basin by ONGC.

(e) In view of the repidly rising demand for petroleum products, the extent of self-sufficiency will depend on the possibility of large oil discoveries in the future.

[English]

Legal Advisors in Mumbai Port Trust

2880. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of legal advisors/consultants working for Mumbai Port Trust in 1993 and whether the normal procedure of appointment followed in the case of Ms. Kiran Chaudhary's appointment as Legal Advisor in 1993;

(b) the terms and conditions, remuneration and perks offered to her and how did these vary with those offered to others similarly placed in the Trust;

(c) the total years of legal experience of Ms. Chaudhary and did she possess sufficient background and specialisation of handling port trust matters to merit her appointment as Legal Advisor and Member in the Mumbai Port Trust; and

(d) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into the alleged irregularities and nepotism in her appointment and if so, the results thereof, who are the guilty persons and the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) There were 18 Legal Adviors/Advocates/Solicitors working for Mumbai Port in 1993. Ms. Krian Chaudhary was empanelled by Mumbai port Trust in 19991 for dealing with legal matters in Tribunal and High Court and in Delhi Courts and Supreme Court after following the normal procedure of appointment.

(b) Ms. Krian Chaudhary was paid a retainership fee of Rs. 3,000/- per month and other charges as per approved scale for appearing/representing in Mumbai Port Trust Legal matters. A comparable Statement of charges payable to her vis-a-vis other advocates is attached.

(c) Since Ms. Kiran Chaudhary was appointed as Legal Advisor-cum-Advocate by the Shipping Corporation of Inida, the Chief Law Officer and Advocate of Mumbai Port Trust proposed her empanelment as Mumbai Port Trust Advocate.

(d) In the light of a bad advice given by the aforesaid firm in one of the important cases, the Government had examined the matter and issued instructions of all the organisations under the Ministry not to engage the aforementioned firm as their legal advisors. In compliance with this instruction, Mumbai Port Trust had terminated the empanelment of the firm as Advocate/Solicitor for Mumbai Port Trust with effect from 30.4.1996.

Statement

Rates of Payment to Advocates by Mumbai Port Trust

1. High Court Matters

	Motiwala & Co. Rs.	Kiran Chowdhary Rs.
	1	2
1. Suits/Petitions/Appeals		
(a) Contested	7,500	8,000
(b) Uncontested	6,000	6,500
2. Drafting Charges	1,500	1,500
3. Execution of Decrees	2,000	2,500
4. Obtaining Certified Copies	750	750
5. Declaratory Suits		
(a) Contested	7,500	7,500
(b) Uncontested	6,000	6,000
6. Interlocutory Proceedings in Suits.		
(a) Drafting	900	1,500
(b) Prof. Charges	1,200	1,500
7. Per Hour charges	350	400